(c) whether Government propose to send any inter disciplinary team to the said village to conduct training programmes; and if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh propose to send an Inter Disciplinary Team comprising Deputy Director of Agriculture, Pauri Garhwal and scientists of Pant Nagar University for conducting training programmes/ indepth review.

Import of Urea

959. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to import large quantities of urea in 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity imported in 1995-96; and

(d) the projected quantity of urea to be imported in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) During 1995-96, a total quantity of 34.97 lakh metric tonnes of urea has been imported between April, 1995 to February, 1996.

It is not possible to indicate the total level of imports of urea expected during 1996-97 as it depends upon a variety of factors liketrend of indigenous production, consumption of fertilizers in the country, behaviour of prices in the international market, global demand and supply position, balance of payments, etc.

Findings of the study conducted on Drug Abuse

960. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had undetaken a thorough study of drug abuse in the country;

(b) if so, the main findings of the study;

(c) whether Government propose to proceed further in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No national survey has been conducted but a nation-wide study by sponsoring projects in 33 selected cities/towns and border areas in 1990 were undertaken.

(b) The main trends discernible are that drug addiction is prevalent in varying degrees among all religious and caste groups; most of the drug abusers are literate; the age group between 16 to 35 years is worst affected; marital status is of no consequence in drug abuse; a significant proportion of drug addicts come from the lower strate; living alone does not contribute to becoming an addict; a large chunk of drug addicts consist of the unemployed, labourer, transport workers and student youth; the most commonly abused drugs are cannabis and heroin; poor pressure and curiosity are the main factors in drug abuse; the most common source of supply is that of peddlers operating through petty shop-keepers and pan wallahs; there is a widespread awareness about the ill-effects of drug abuse on both the individual and his family; and in many areas, knowledge about the action being taken by the welfare agencies in the identification, motivation, counselling deaddiction, and rehabilitation of addicts is still lacking.

(c) and (d) The above findings were inter-alia kept in view while revising the scheme for Drug Abuse Prevention in 1994. Priority was given to drug prone areas for setting up a new cehtres. Bench Mark Survey on drug abuse is in progress the metro cities Bombay and Delhi, and in Manipur.

Production of LOI Capacity of Assam Gas Cracker Project

961. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to reduce the LOI capacity of Assam Gas Cracker Project by 10,000 TPA;

(b) if so, whether Government have any objection in making available gas for LOI capacity subject to availability of gas from associated and non associated gas fields;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government intends the project named Assam Gas Cracker to be disintegrated and set up under two or three different corporate entities; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such disintegration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has no objection in making available sufficient quantity of associated and non-associated gas for the LOI capacity of 3 lakh TPA subject to the availability of gas.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Identification of drugs for price control

962. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken the cut off date for identification of drugs for price control as March, 1990;

(b) whether vast replacements of drugs is being done based on effectiveness and toxicity;

(c) the objective under which March, 1990 has been taken and the reason for not taking March, 1994;

(d) whether all recently introduced drugs are being sold at exorbitant prices; and

(e) the names of the drugs which have been introduced from 1990-end of 1995 alongwith the names of the leader of the follower brand and their prices?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) The cut off date for identification of drugs for price control as also the updation of the list is provided for in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', which is as follows:

Para 22.7 (v)

"For applying the above criteria, to start with the basis would be the date upto 31st March, 1990 collected for the exercise of the Review of the Drug Policy. The updating of the date will be done by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority as detailed in para 22.7.4 (i).

On the above basis the list of price controlled drugs has been prepared and updation will be undertaken by NPPA, which is in the process of formation.

मूल्य-नियंत्रण के अधीन औषधियाँ

963. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:

क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री 1 दिसंबर, 1995 को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न 100 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा गत वर्ष घोषित की गई नई औषध नीति के तहत पहले के 135 ब्राण्डों में से 76 ब्राण्डों की औषधियों को मूल्य नियंत्रण के क्षेत्र में लाया गया था;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने मूल्य नियंत्रण के प्रयोजनार्थ गठित किए जाने वाले औषध मूल्य प्राधिकरण का गठन अब तक नहीं किया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उक्त प्राधिकरण का गठन न किए जाने के क्या कारण है; और

(घ) उक्त प्राधिकरण को कब तक गठित किए जाने की संभावना हैं?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री राम लखन सिंह यादव): (क) पूर्व डी.पी.सी.ओ., 1987 की प्रथम अनुसूची में 21 प्रपुंज औषधों और दूसरी अनुसूची में 124 औषधों की तुलना में डी.पी.सी.ओ., 1995 की प्रथम अनुसूची में सूचीबद्ध किए गए प्रपुंज औषधों की संख्या केवल 76 है।

(ख) से (ङ) "औषध नीति, 1986 में संशोधानों" के उपबन्धों के अनुसार मूल्य निर्धारण का कार्य करने के लिए नेशनल फार्मास्युटिकल्स प्राइसिंग अथारिटी (एन.पी.ए.) विशेषज्ञों का एक स्वतन्त्र निकाय की स्थापना की जानी है। प्रस्तावित एन.पी.पी.ए., के अध्यक्ष और सदस्य सचिव के पदों के सृजन के लिए अनुमोदन प्राप्त कर लिया गया है। इस मामले में अनुवर्ती कार्रवाई प्रगति पर है।